

CALAMOPHERPE LONGIROSTRIS. *Cal. vittâ pallidâ, supra oculos cervinâ; corpore supernè rufo, subtùs saturatè cervino; mento albido.*

Faint line over the eye fawn-colour; all the upper surface reddish brown, becoming more rufous on the upper tail-coverts; primaries and tail dark brown, fringed with rufous; chin whitish; all the under surface deep fawn-colour; irides yellowish brown.

Total length,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches; bill,  $\frac{1\frac{1}{2}}{16}$ ; wing, 3; tail, 3; tarsi, 1.

*Hab.* Western Australia.

#### MICROSCOPICAL SOCIETY.

June 18, 1845.—Thomas Bell, Esq., F.R.S., President, in the Chair.

A paper by George Shadbolt, jun., Esq., "On a British species of *Ixodes* found upon Cattle," was read.

The insects forming the subject of the present paper were found on some cows belonging to a farmer residing at Chingford, Essex, on the borders of Epping Forest. They are known to the country people by the name of the "Tick," but they are aware that they differ from the insects of that name which infest sheep and goats. They are found upon cattle, attacking all parts indiscriminately, and causing much irritation and annoyance to them. They have been found in the number of several hundreds on a single cow, and have also been known to attack even human subjects, but this is not common, and although it is probable that they infest other animals, the author has seen them only on cows. They do not appear to breed on the animals infested, but are produced in the forest into which the cattle are sent to graze, and which appear to become infested with them by their crawling up their legs while feeding. After having attached themselves by means of a very curious apparatus with which they are furnished, they gorge themselves with blood, and the abdomen increases in size from about the  $\frac{1}{10}$ th of an inch until they become as large as a small bean; when fully gorged they fall off, and the author was not able to ascertain their further progress. The form of this insect is oval: it has eight legs, in which particular it differs from the Brazilian species described by Mr. Busk in a former paper read to the Society, these last having but six. These legs are attached to the anterior half of the trunk, and consist of seven joints, the tarsi being terminated by a species of webbed foot, capable of being folded together and furnished with two recurved claws. The oral apparatus by which it attaches itself is exceedingly interesting; it consists of two palpi serving as a kind of sheath to the other parts when inactive, two jointed mandibles, and a barbed or hooked labium. Specimens of this and other species were afterwards exhibited.

Also a paper by H. Deane, Esq., "On the Existence of Fossil *Xanthidia* in the Chalk," was read.

After mentioning that the occurrence of *Xanthidia* in a fossil state had not hitherto been observed in any other situation than in the flint-nodules of the chalk, and consequently that great doubt existed whether these fossils were really independent animal existences or only parts of some other creature, Mr. Deane stated that there is a grayish kind of chalk having no flints, but containing quantities of

nodules of iron pyrites, which juts into the sea between Dover and Folkstone, forming the beach for some distance. Upon exposing a portion of this to the action of hydrochloric acid, and examining microscopically the insoluble sediment, bodies similar to, if not identical with, the *Xanthidia* in flints were exposed to view; several species were clearly to be recognised, together with casts of *Polythalamia* and other bodies frequently found in flints.

## ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

July 3rd, 1843.—George Newport, Esq., President, in the Chair.

Mr. Samuel Stevens brought for exhibition a box of insects from Dorking, in which were specimens of *Claviger foveolatus* taken from the nest of *Formica flava*; also *Molorchus minor*, *Micronyx Jungermannia*, *Tychius lineatulus*, &c.; also a box from Charlton and Plumstead, in which were *Acalles Ptinoides*, *A. roboris*, *Pæcilus lepidus*, &c.; also the following moths from the Hammersmith marshes: *Leucania straminea*, reared from the larvæ exhibited at the last meeting, *Leucania obsoleta*, *Sensia sericea*, *Nudaria senex*, *Chilo phragmitellus* and *gigantellus*, the latter being most probably the female of the preceding insect.

Mr. Walton exhibited specimens of *Eriirhinus Chamomillæ*, and Mr. Rich, a female *Goliathus*, apparently identical with *G. regius*, Klug.

A paper was read by Mr. Westwood on the Indian genera *Trigonophorus* and *Rhomborhina*, published in vol. iv. part 1. of the Transactions.

August 7th.—George Newport, Esq., President, in the Chair.

Mr. Westwood exhibited a male specimen of *Tengyra Sanvitali*, taken during the last month by sweeping in hedge-rows near Ascot heath.

Mr. Saunders exhibited a specimen of the Australian genus *Cilibe*, which had been captured alive in a garden near London. Also some pupæ of a small *Homopterous* insect which had proved very injurious in the oak plantations throughout extensive districts in Scotland, by raising blisters upon the leaves. Also specimens of a small *Dipterous* insect (*Phytomyza lateralis*), which attacks the petals of the pansy by puncturing them, as was stated, with the ovipositor, and then sucking out the colouring matter with the haustellum.

Mr. Marshall exhibited a remarkable specimen of *Hipparchia Galathea* of a white colour with the ordinary markings obliterated, and Mr. Evans a specimen of *Lamia Textor*, taken near Canterbury in July.

The following memoirs were read:—

On the Insects residing in Bramble-sticks. By Mr. F. Smith. (Published in the first part of the fourth volume of the Transactions of the Society.)

Description of a new species of *Ceria*. By Mr. W. W. Saunders. (Published in the first part of the fourth volume of the Transactions of the Society.)

On some new exotic species of *Aphodiidæ*. By Mr. Westwood. *Ann. & Mag. N. Hist. Vol. xvi.* F